AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method of providing information about an object through a graphical interface, the method comprising:
creating and storing scalable vector graphics (SVG) statements in a SVG document that references a SVG document type definition file, the SVG statements associated with a graphical representation of the object;
inserting into the SVG document a reference to a second document type definition file, said second document type definition file defining a binding element with an attribute for referencing a resource through a pointer, wherein the resource includes information pertaining to the object;
wherein the resource is a database and the pointer includes a query for a data item in the database; and
binding to the SVG statements the pointer to the resource from an instance of the binding element.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
creating and storing additional SVG statements in the SVG document, the additional statements associated with an other graphical representation of an other object; and
binding the additional SVG statements to an other pointer to the resource, wherein the resource includes additional information pertaining to the other object.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

presenting a graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements in the SVG document;

extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;

determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation of the object; and

if the user has selected the graphical representation, then using information in the resource based on the pointer.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein:

the method further comprises defining a style sheet which maps an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

said determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation comprises determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein:

the method further comprises providing statements in at least one of a scripting language and a programming language, the statements mapping an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

said determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation comprises determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 7, said using the information in the resource comprising displaying the information to the user.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 7, said using the information in the resource comprising launching a separate application to operate on the resource based on the pointer.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

14. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in Claim 1, the method comprising:
retrieving the SVG document wherein the SVG statements are associated with a first graphical representation of the object;
extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;
retrieving information from the resource based on the pointer;
modifying the SVG statements based on the information; and
presenting a second graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements after said modifying.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein:
the information retrieved from the resource includes current status of the object; and
the second graphical representation indicates the current status of the object.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) The method of Claim 14, said modifying the SVG statements comprising:
inserting an anchor for a hyperlink to another resource; and
inserting the second graphical representation of the object into the anchor.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18, said modifying the SVG statements further comprising including in the hyperlink at least a portion of the information retrieved from the resource based on the pointer.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the second graphical representation is the same as the first graphical representation.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18, said modifying the SVG statements further comprising removing the instance of the binding element from the SVG statements.

22. (Original) The method of Claim 18, said modifying the SVG statements further comprising removing the SVG statements that form the first graphical representation of the object.

23-31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of extracting the pointer comprises extracting a value from the attribute of the instance of the binding element for referencing a resource through a pointer.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of extracting the pointer comprises extracting a value from the attribute of the instance of the binding element for referencing a resource through a pointer.

34. (New) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for providing information about an object through a graphical interface, which sequences of instructions, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

creating and storing scalable vector graphics (SVG) statements in a SVG document that references a SVG document type definition file, the SVG statements associated with a graphical representation of the object;

inserting into the SVG document a reference to a second document type definition file, said second document type definition file defining a binding element with an attribute for referencing a resource through a pointer, wherein the resource includes information pertaining to the object;

wherein the resource is a database and the pointer includes a query for a data item in the database; and

binding to the SVG statements the pointer to the resource from an instance of the binding element.

35. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein:

the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;

the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and

the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

36. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

creating and storing additional SVG statements in the SVG document, the additional statements associated with an other graphical representation of an other object; and

binding the additional SVG statements to an other pointer to the resource, wherein the resource includes additional information pertaining to the other object.

37. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

presenting the graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements in the SVG document;

extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;

determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation of the object; and

if the user has selected the graphical representation, then using information in the resource based on the pointer.

38. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein:

the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform defining a style sheet which maps an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

39. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein:

the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform providing statements in at least one of a scripting language and a programming language, the statements mapping an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

40. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform using the information in the resource comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform displaying the information to the user.

41. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform using the information in the resource comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform launching a separate application to operate on the resource based on the pointer.

42. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein:

the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;

the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and

the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

43. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:
retrieving the SVG document wherein the SVG statements are associated with a first graphical representation of the object;
extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;
retrieving information from the resource based on the pointer;
modifying the SVG statements based on the information; and
presenting a second graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements after said modifying.

44. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 43, wherein:
the information retrieved from the resource includes current status of the object; and
the second graphical representation indicates the current status of the object.

45. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 44, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

46. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 43, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:
inserting an anchor for a hyperlink to another resource; and
inserting the second graphical representation of the object into the anchor.

47. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 46, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform including in the hyperlink at least a portion of the information retrieved from the resource based on the pointer.

48. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 46, wherein the second graphical representation is the same as the first graphical representation.

49. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 46, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform removing the instance of the binding element from the SVG statements.

50. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 46, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform removing the SVG statements that form the first graphical representation of the object.

51. (New) An apparatus for providing information about an object through a graphical interface, the apparatus comprising:
one or more processors; and
one or more stored sequences of instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:
creating and storing scalable vector graphics (SVG) statements in a SVG document that references a SVG document type definition file, the SVG statements associated with a graphical representation of the object;

inserting into the SVG document a reference to a second document type definition file, said second document type definition file defining a binding element with an attribute for referencing a resource through a pointer, wherein the resource includes information pertaining to the object;

wherein the resource is a database and the pointer includes a query for a data item in the database; and

binding to the SVG statements the pointer to the resource from an instance of the binding element.

52. (New) The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein:

the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;

the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and

the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

53. (New) The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

creating and storing additional SVG statements in the SVG document, the additional statements associated with an other graphical representation of an other object; and

binding the additional SVG statements to an other pointer to the resource, wherein the resource includes additional information pertaining to the other object.

54. (New) The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

presenting the graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements in the SVG document;

extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;

determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation of the object; and

if the user has selected the graphical representation, then using information in the resource based on the pointer.

55. (New) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein:

the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform defining a style sheet which maps an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

56. (New) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein:

the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform providing statements in at least one of a scripting language and a programming language, the statements mapping an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

57. (New) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform using the information in the resource comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform displaying the information to the user.

58. (New) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform using the information in the resource comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform launching a separate application to operate on the resource based on the pointer.

59. (New) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

60. (New) The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:
retrieving the SVG document wherein the SVG statements are associated with a first graphical representation of the object;
extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;
retrieving information from the resource based on the pointer;
modifying the SVG statements based on the information; and
presenting a second graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements after said modifying.

61. (New) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein:
the information retrieved from the resource includes current status of the object; and
the second graphical representation indicates the current status of the object.

62. (New) The apparatus of Claim 61, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

63. (New) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:
inserting an anchor for a hyperlink to another resource; and
inserting the second graphical representation of the object into the anchor.

64. (New) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform including in the hyperlink at least a portion of the information retrieved from the resource based on the pointer.

65. (New) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein the second graphical representation is the same as the first graphical representation.

66. (New) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more

processors to perform removing the instance of the binding element from the SVG statements.

67. (New) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform removing the SVG statements that form the first graphical representation of the object.

68. (New) An apparatus for providing information about an object through a graphical interface, the apparatus comprising:

means for creating and storing scalable vector graphics (SVG) statements in a SVG document that references a SVG document type definition file, the SVG statements associated with a graphical representation of the object;

means for inserting into the SVG document a reference to a second document type definition file, said second document type definition file defining a binding element with an attribute for referencing a resource through a pointer, wherein the resource includes information pertaining to the object;

wherein the resource is a database and the pointer includes a query for a data item in the database; and

means for binding to the SVG statements the pointer to the resource from an instance of the binding element.

69. (New) The apparatus of Claim 68, wherein:

the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;

the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and

the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

70. (New) The apparatus of Claim 68, further comprising:

means for creating and storing additional SVG statements in the SVG document, the additional statements associated with an other graphical representation of an other object; and

means for binding the additional SVG statements to an other pointer to the resource, wherein the resource includes additional information pertaining to the other object.

71. (New) The apparatus of Claim 68, further comprising:

means for presenting the graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements in the SVG document;

means for extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;

means for determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation of the object; and

means for using information in the resource based on the pointer when the user has selected the graphical representation.

72. (New) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein:

the apparatus further comprises means for defining a style sheet which maps an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the means for determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise means for determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

73. (New) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein:

the apparatus further comprises means for providing statements in at least one of a scripting language and a programming language, the statements mapping an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the means for determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise means for determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

74. (New) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein the means for using the information in the resource comprise means for displaying the information to the user.

75. (New) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein means for using the information in the resource comprise means for launching a separate application to operate on the resource based on the pointer.

76. (New) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

77. (New) The apparatus of Claim 68, further comprising:
means for retrieving the SVG document wherein the SVG statements are associated with a first graphical representation of the object;
means for extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;
means for retrieving information from the resource based on the pointer;
means for modifying the SVG statements based on the information; and
means for presenting a second graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements after the SVG statements are modified based on the information.

78. (New) The apparatus of Claim 77, wherein:
the information retrieved from the resource includes current status of the object; and

the second graphical representation indicates the current status of the object.

79. (New) The apparatus of Claim 78, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

80. (New) The apparatus of Claim 77, wherein the means for modifying the SVG statements further comprise:
means for inserting an anchor for a hyperlink to another resource; and
means for inserting the second graphical representation of the object into the anchor.

81. (New) The apparatus of Claim 80, wherein the means for modifying the SVG statements further comprise means for including in the hyperlink at least a portion of the information retrieved from the resource based on the pointer.

82. (New) The apparatus of Claim 80, wherein the second graphical representation is the same as the first graphical representation.

83. (New) The apparatus of Claim 80, wherein the means for modifying the SVG statements further comprise means for removing the instance of the binding element from the SVG statements.

84. (New) The apparatus of Claim 80, wherein the means for modifying the SVG statements further comprise means for removing the SVG statements that form the first graphical representation of the object.